

## **Phoenix Veterans Day Parade Entry Standards and Guidelines**

### **Parade Date: November 11 at 11 a.m.**

Veterans Day is set aside to recognize and thank all who served honorably in the military during war or peace. Veterans Day is mainly intended to thank our living veterans for their service, for supporting our national security, and to underscore that all those who served have sacrificed and answered their call to duty to preserve our freedoms.

Veterans Day was first known as Armistice Day, and it was established by President Woodrow Wilson in 1919 in honor of the signing of the Armistice to end World War I. The signing took place on the 11<sup>th</sup> hour of the 11<sup>th</sup> day of the 11<sup>th</sup> month in 1918, giving significance to the day and time. President Dwight D. Eisenhower changed the name of the celebration to Veterans Day in 1954 at the end of the Korean War to honor all Veterans. Today, Veterans Day is observed in the United States on November 11, a federal and state holiday.

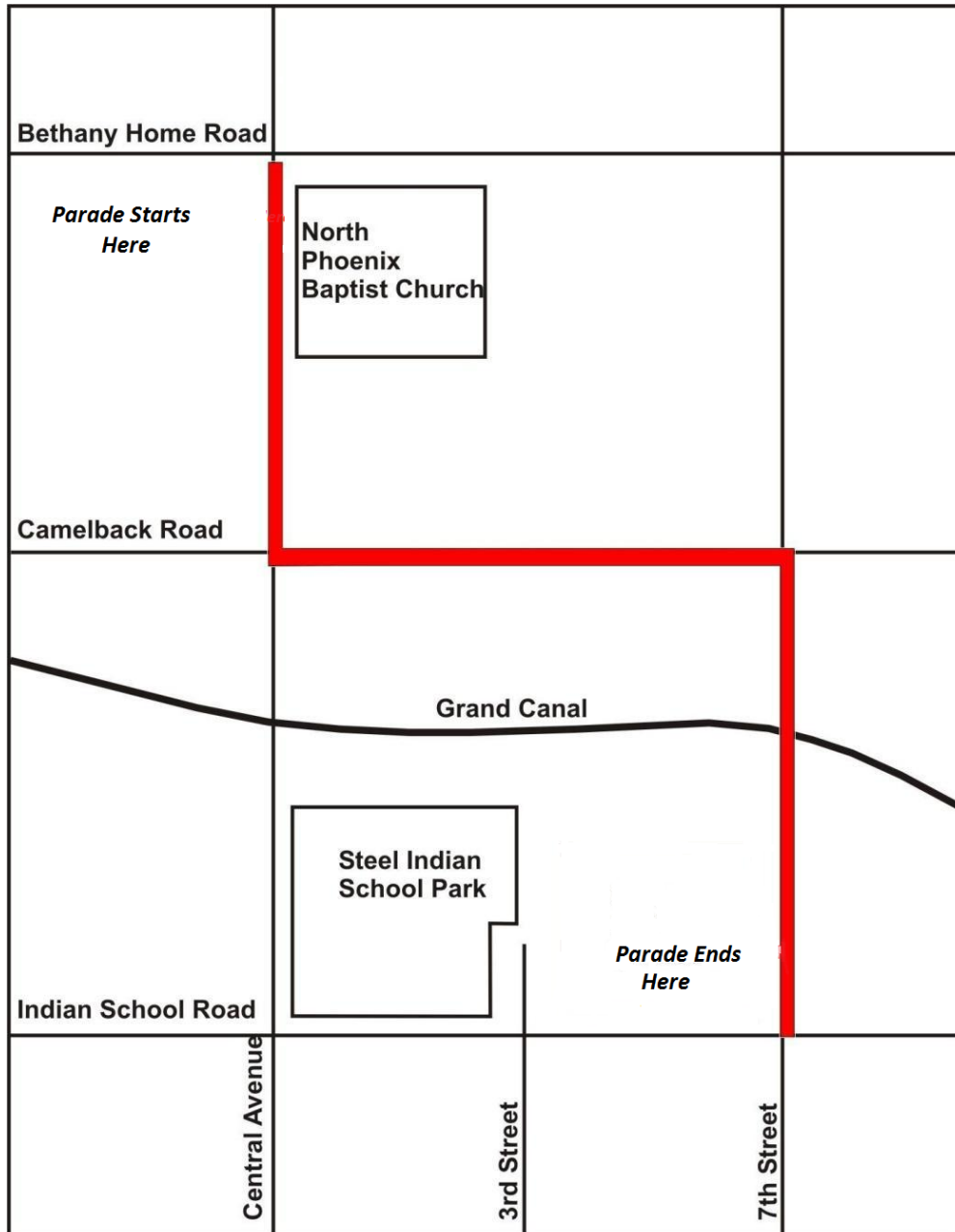
[In Arizona, Honoring America's Veterans \(HAV\)](#) is the proud sponsor of the Phoenix Veterans Day Parade. HAV is a 501 (c) (3) organization and is operating this event in its private capacity as an organization. HAV works with the [City of Phoenix](#), which supports city street services, police and fire assistance, and other ancillary services.

***The Phoenix Veterans Day Parade Mission Statement:*** *To create an annual Veterans Day Parade to honor the contributions of our United States Veterans and help build a patriotic Phoenix community spirit that recognizes the sacrifices Veterans make for our country.*

# PHOENIX VETERANS DAY PARADE

November 11 at 11 a.m.

## PHOENIX VETERANS DAY PARADE ROUTE



The parade heads south on Central Avenue, crosses east on Camelback Road, and turn south on 7<sup>th</sup> Street, where it ends and de-stages at Indian School Road. The parade route is two miles long. Parade staging takes about 1.5 hours, and entries will move into the parade march at approximately 10:30 a.m. ***Street closures begin at 10 a.m., so all entries must be placed before the street closure.***

**PARADE LINEUP:** To create a beautiful parade and reduce the closure time of the streets, the Phoenix Veterans Day Parade Team reserves the right to coordinate entries for the best possible lineup. Lineup Coordination may include a grouping of similar units together.

## PHOENIX VETERANS DAY PARADE ENTRY STANDARDS

1. INTENT AND PURPOSE: The meaning and purpose of the Phoenix Veterans Day Parade are to honor our nation's Veterans by respectfully and positively recognizing their military service in the Armed Forces (Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, National Guard, Coast Guard, and Merchant Marines). Any individual or unit determined to have a presentation inconsistent with this parade's theme may be denied participation. The parade may not be a platform for any other issue or cause.
2. ENTRY REQUEST/ACCEPTANCE: Entrants must complete a Phoenix Veterans Day Parade Entry Application Form. Entries **MUST** include what attire the unit will wear for the parade **AND** what items they will carry or display. *All entries are subject to approval by the Phoenix Veterans Day Parade Team to ensure adherence to the standards and guidelines.* Missing information on the entry form may delay this approval process. **Entries will be notified of parade acceptance or declination.**
3. SIZE LIMITS: Each parade entry is limited to 150 members (except bands). Entries larger than this that wish to participate in the Phoenix Veterans Day Parade will be split into two or more separate units to create a steady flow for the overall parade.
4. MINIMUM AGE LIMITS: Because of the parade route's length and pace, children marching must meet the minimum age requirement of 13 years old.
5. TRASH (PACK IT IN AND PACK IT OUT): Entrants must ensure that all garbage generated by their entry while in the staging and de-staging areas is disposed of properly. This requirement includes any staging needs, such as decorations, wooden pallets, paper, empty water bottles, etc. Trash bins are provided, and entrants are requested to take their trash to these disposal areas.
6. ESCORTS: If a unit needs official escorts, they should be part of each parade unit. Official escorts participating in the parade are limited to five per 50 people (150 entry limit = 15 escorts maximum per unit). **Escorts MUST be in patriotic attire and part of a marching unit.**
7. SAFETY AND COURTESY: Entries should always participate in the parade courteously, with safety in mind. Parade entry members riding on a float must be securely fastened to the float with safety harnesses. All entries of vehicles must display proof of current insurance, and the driver must have a valid driver's license to participate. License and insurance will be randomly checked before the parade movement. ***For safety reasons, throwing anything from the parade route into the crowd IS PROHIBITED. Handouts or giveaway items are to be listed as part of your entry. If you are handing out items, you must walk to the spectators, handing out items individually and keep pace with your entry.***
8. ELIGIBILITY FOR JUDGING: Entries can be judged for parade awards. Entries will be judged on presentation along the entire two-mile parade route. Any entry that fails to adhere to the parade standards and guidelines will disqualify their entry from eligibility for all awards. Dependent upon the infraction, the entry may also be suspended from participation in future

parades.

9. NO STOPPING ALONG PARADE ROUTE: **ENTRIES SHALL NOT STOP IN THE PARADE** for any reason other than an emergency, including any precision or drill unit presentation, gymnastics, etc. *Please note that stopping along the parade route creates gaps in the parade, creates safety issues, and can ruin the overall event.*
  
10. ANIMAL WASTE: All animal (equestrian and canine) units must have appropriate methods of waste removal (i.e., diapers or "pooper-scoopers") and are responsible for ensuring cleanup in the staging area, along the parade route and in the de-staging area. All entries with animals shall ensure that the animal waste is packed out with their entry or disposed of safely and appropriately. Failure to do so will result in disqualification for awards and future entry status.
  
11. THEME: The theme of the Phoenix Veterans Day Parade changes each year and is chosen to help honor our Veterans through patriotic and uplifting parade entry displays. We intend to positively recognize those who have served in the Armed Forces and protected the citizens of the United States and preserved our freedom. The parade may not be a platform for any other issue or cause, including political campaigns.
  
12. APPAREL: Parade apparel must be appropriate to the parade theme. For example, *Reserve Officer Training Corps is in uniform, Novelty Unit is in Pom attire, Pearl Harbor Veterans is in Aloha attire, etc.* DOD standards allow those on active duty, active reserve, or on orders to be in uniform, and retired members' uniform wear is optional but highly preferred in keeping with the theme. **Please note: Flag etiquette prohibits wearing the American flag as clothing.**
  
13. MUSIC: Bands **MUST** play music along the entire length of the two-mile parade route. Bands are also strongly encouraged to play patriotic and military marches. The music should be played during the entire parade for the enjoyment of all spectators. *Any entrants that are using music, videos or other copyrighted materials (collectively the "Materials") are responsible for obtaining any permissions, authorizations and/or licenses required to use or perform such Materials.*
  
14. VEHICLE AND FLOAT DECORATIONS: Vehicles in the parade should be either of historical military significance or have some Veteran connection. If not, they must be able to provide a service to the parade (i.e., carrying a parade grand marshal, novelty, VIP, etc.). ALL civilian vehicles shall be decorated in a patriotic theme to bring more attention to our veterans' service. Tow vehicles for floats or other entries should also be decorated in a patriotic theme. Vehicles shall also maintain the parade pace.
  
15. POLITICAL CANDIDATES: As a 501c3 organization designated by the IRS, HAV cannot endorse or appear to endorse any political candidates. Therefore, no candidates are allowed to participate in the parade, and there is to be no demonstration of support for any candidates. HAV will ensure that they are responsible as an entity for inviting duly elected political dignitaries to participate.

16. HAV maintains the right to select parade entries.